

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Response to consultation on Civilian Parking Enforcement

October 2017

At the meeting of 16th October Walberswick PC considered a report from Walberswick Car Parking Ltd on this consultation. Councillors resolved to provide the following comments to the District in response to the consultation paper:

Summary of Response

“Walberswick currently has two privately operated off-street car parks. These car parks operate efficiently and would be unaffected by the CPE proposal. Walberswick has, however, some on-street illegal parking ‘hot spots’ particularly during summer holidays. Support of a CPE in helping enforcement parking restrictions that are in place but at times violated would be helpful. Walberswick looks forward to the next set of more detailed proposals and consultations.”

Background to Discussion

At its meeting on 9 October 2017, the Board of the WCPL considered the consultation paper on CPE in order to provide recommendations to the WPC that the WPC may wish to consider submitting on behalf of the Village. This is the first round of Consultations and it can be expected that more detailed proposals will come in the second round.

At its core, the proposal in the Consultation is to change Parking Enforcement in Suffolk Coastal and surrounding districts from one that is police-based to one that is civilian-based. The parking enforcement would most probably be undertaken by an out-sourced company under a large contract for the benefit of all jurisdictions.

The report from the Board of WCPL facilitated the discussion although Councillors were not in agreement with all of the issues.

Details of Response

Walberswick Parish Council wishes to make the following observations: -

1. In terms of the 2 Walberswick car parks (Cliff Field and Ferry Road) which are run by the WCPL for the benefit of the WCLC, the CPE would have no impact since these are privately operated. Therefore the CPE proposal is neutral.
2. In terms of concerns related to parking on yellow lines during prohibited periods (currently summer months from 10 am - 6 pm), the proposal would potentially be helpful to the village as civilian enforcement could be invited into the village and, presumably, enforcement strengthened. It should be expected that were Walberswick to make use of the Civilian Enforcement, the WPC would have a fixed expense to contribute on an annual basis. It should also be expected that as part of the scheme, WPC would be expected to receive some portion of any fines assessed on illegally parked cars

3. In a related point, and particularly if enforcement were to begin in earnest under the CPE, WPC may need to consider new “resident parking only” parking bays in some areas. Obviously, all these changes would require approvals at various levels of authorities in addition to local consultations. However WP Councillors are not in favour of this provision.

4. WPC consider requesting Suffolk Highways to add some areas of double-yellow lines where the road situation is particularly dangerous. In particular, the area around the Jubilee Seat is considered especially dangerous for pedestrians and children and all parking should be prohibited.